

some wet clothes they freeze almost immediately. I am seldom out doors as I can't walk much without being tired, though it is likely partly due to lack of exercise. When I try to go unless I take the babies they cry to go and it isn't much comfort to go off and leave them wailing. We went to-day to Mrs. Siemer's to see their barnyard animals. The children always enjoy the and come back grunting quack-quacking and crowing.

All Mr. S. needs to complete his happiness is a baby and a big red barn. They borrow K. occasionally and she often says "good by" and starts off running.

Chefoo, China. Jan. 24, 1909.

My dearest Mother and Sister,
No word has come from you since I wrote last I believe, but as I didn't write to you last week I feel that I'd better try to write to you. We had two pictures in the last issue of the M. A. and the dear children in the posy auto and Mary Andrews and her two babies. The little girl is so sweet and fine and the boy fat and pretty. I was more than glad to get them both. Some days before, we got a nice letter from Nae telling of her visit to Wichita.

Yesterday was Edmund's birthday and we tried for our pictures again, but I've not much hopes they will amount to much. We had to sit out doors and it was cold.

Jan 27. Sleep overtook me just here.
To night I've been mending while Alvin
reads Tennyson's Round Table and he
read himself to sleep, so I've
again while he tends to the babies
before me go to bed. I hate to put in
so many hours in bed, but we
all caught cold on Saturday and so
are up with coughy babies, all
are improving. I've had four
companies to-day so haven't
sewed much. Last night I made
34 articles, The woman did a
comforter and part of a mattress
but I did the rest. There were 20
bouds and of course most of them
were simple and all machine
work. I'm just about finished
with my preparations and have
the room ready except moving
in my bed and arranging

a few things.

The babies are as full of fun
and life as usual. Alvin is
beginning to talk a little and
watches our mouths to see
how it is done any way. We
are so thankful to have him
try and make a great rejoicing
when he approaches anywhere
near a word. He hears perfectly.

We got a little package of
Christmas from Lewis and Maude.
Jan 31. My ideas seem to be congeal-
ed. I suppose the real reason
that Alvin has been reading
and I like to sew when he does that.
The work slipped away so fast
that I can't account for it
all. We still have baby's mat-
tress or so it seems to me, but
I noticed when I hung out